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A Text-Book of Geography. Practical and Physical. By Ronald M. Munro. 480 pp. Maps, ills., index. J. Cormack, Edinburgh, 1914 (?). $7\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$.

"The aim of this book," the author says, "is to provide in a single volume a reasoned account of the chief facts of astronomical, mathematical, physical, practical, biological, commercial, and historical geography, in order that the pupil may be able to adopt the scientific method in his study of regional geography, and discover to what extent the events of history have been controlled by geographical conditions." The influence of the inorganic upon the organic is emphasized. The book is well illustrated and concisely written.

WILBUR GREELEY BURROUGHS.

A Commercial Geography of the British Isles. By Frederick Mort. 152 pp. Maps, index. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh, 1914 (?). 1s. $7\frac{1}{2} \times 5$.

The author shows the influence of physiographic elements upon the various industries. He first takes up the general geographical factors that influence commerce; next, the commodities that enter largely into the commerce of the world, considering for each product its origin, preparation, etc., its sources of supply, and places of ultimate consumption. A study of the commercial geography of the British Empire completes the work. Tables are given showing the articles of commerce and the value of each article which England receives from and sends to each of the countries with whom she trades.

WILBUR GREELEY BURROUGHS.

The United States by Groups and by States. By William Rabenort. viii and 232 pp. Maps, ills., index. American Book Co., New York, 1914. 50 cents. 9×6 .

It is somewhat discouraging that there are still publishers who will print poor material despite the high standard they set for themselves. In a word this book is bad. Its title indicates its scope. The series of facts are often related incoherently. The English in general is certainly a poor model for students in "Grade 5B." The map work is unsatisfactory. Will American publishers ever learn to make good maps in all texts?

The chief manufactured product of Superior, Wis., is not flour; the discussion of climate in most instances is incomplete. "Like Ocean Grove, Asbury Park, Cape May and other resorts it [Atlantic City] has a long board walk along the ocean." Of what geographical significance can such a statement be?

EUGENE VAN CLEEF.

Der erdkundliche Unterricht an höheren Lehranstalten. Von Richard Lehmann. (Series: Vorlesungen über Hilfsmittel und Methode des Geographischen Unterrichts. Von R. Lehmann. 2. Band.) 387 pp. ills. Tausch & Grosse, Halle a. d. S., 1913. Mk. 7.50. $9\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$.

The "higher schools" referred to are *Gymnasias* and *Realschulen*, in which the pupils range from 8 to 18 years on the average. They have a sufficient number of points in common with our graded and high schools to make a comparative analysis of pedagogic methods profitable.

The central topics of this book on geography methods are: the place of geography in the school course, the teacher of geography, the distribution of subject matter by grades, home geography and basal concepts, the study of earth features, and regional geography. The general method may be summarized as consisting (1) of a progression from the simple to the complex rather than from the near to the far; (2) utilization of the didactic value of contrasts; and (3) abundant repetition, but in varied form. The work begins with a study of the child's environment, in which material belonging to general science and to local history is included. The author believes in excursions at this and other stages of the work. From home geography he turns to the contrasts given by distant parts of the world. The simplest continent is studied first, and the study of Germany is reserved to the last, as being most complex. The work in the middle classes is distinguished by the emphasis placed

upon climate and the making of maps. Physical processes and economic conditions are not stressed much until in the highest classes, where they form the basis of most of the study.

Especially stimulating is a discourse on the intellectual and material value of geographical study, to which is added an essay on its ethical moment. The volume also contains a strong chapter on the use of graphs, and one on the qualities desired of a school text. The references to literature are voluminous and critically annotated.

The reader is overwhelmed by the fullness of the syllabus. Each topic is treated with a thoroughness that is admirable but a little pedantic. The author has left in some parts very little to the imagination of the reader. At the same time the selection of material is based on sound common sense. Its grading is carried through consistently, and the model lessons are presented clearly and appropriately. The author has a most serious and sensible conception of the intensely practical mission of geographical instruction. CARL O. SAUER.

An Introduction to General Geography. By Alec A. Golding. x and 222 pp. Ills., index. University Press, Cambridge; G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1915. \$1. 5½ x 8.

According to the author's preface, this is a volume of slightly expanded notes acquired through several years of classroom work. It has the merits and demerits of such records: a clear perception of and help to the solution of certain general difficulties and perplexities and, on the other hand, a limited and individual view point. Moreover the "note" character crops out in several incomplete and, hence, misleading statements: "A very large proportion of India has been cleared, but probably no country has been so thoroughly cleared as China. In both countries the cutting of timber is regulated by government." (p. 107); "The potato plant was probably a native of Chile but was extensively cultivated before America was discovered" (p. 114); the paragraph headed "Savanna" is mainly a description of desert vegetation, and so forth. Maps and diagrams show a laudable striving after clarity and simplicity. In some cases the maps are on too small a scale: thus the mean annual rainfall map of the world fails to show the Peruvian coast as a rain shadow while, through the confusion of lines, the population density map does not show whether the desert of Atacama has notably more or less than 100 people to the square mile.

OTHER BOOKS RECEIVED

These notes do not preclude more extended reference later

NORTH AMERICA

ANNAPOLIS. History of the ancient city and its public buildings. Compiled by Oswald Tilghman. 47 pp. Ills. Executive Dept., Annapolis, 1914. 6½ x 4.

FACTS ABOUT TENNESSEE. 49 pp. Ills. Dept. of Agriculture, Nashville, 1915. 6 x 3.

FARM FORESTRY. A text book dealing with the wooded parts of southern farms and the problems growing out of them, for use in agricultural high schools and colleges. By Alfred Akerman. 58 pp. Ills., index. The author, Athens, Georgia, 1914. 80 cents. 8½ x 5½.

THE GENTLE PIONEERS. By one of them, R. Habersham Barnwell. [Camping trip through Colorado.] 363 pp. R. G. Badger, Boston, 1915. \$1.25. 7½ x 5.